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ASSOCIATION OF HOME APPLIANCE MANUFACTURERS
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OVER 31 MILLION UNITS PREDICTED FOR MAJOR APPLIANCE INDUSTRY

CHICAGO -- The major appliance industry experienced its second best October in history with total factory shipments exceeding three million units for an increase of 29.7% over 1982, reports the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM). Shipments during the first 10 months of the year are up 19.7% over the 1982 level.

"There is no doubt that shipments of major household appliances will exceed 31 million units this year," notes AHAM president Robert Holding, "making this the best year since 1979 for the industry." Shipments during the first 10 months of 1983 exceed the total for all of 1982 by nearly a half-million units.

A firming of the economic recovery and improved consumer confidence coupled with strong replacement demand and a revised new housing market continue to account for the significant increase in shipments. Compared to 1982, year-to-date shipment increases exceeded: 15% for home laundry; 20% for refrigerators; 30% for disposers and electric ranges; and 40% for dishwashers and microwave ovens.

Month-to-month comparisons followed a similar pattern, except for microwave ovens (770,700 units) which increased by 63.8% in October for the third consecutive record-breaking month. Disposers also established a new shipment record (360,400 units), making October their best month in history.

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MAJOR HOME APPLIANCE FACTORY SHIPMENTS THOUSANDS OF UNITS
(Domestic Plus Export)
October, 1983

	October 1983	October 1982	% Change	Calendar Year to Date 1983	1982	% Change
ALL MAJOR APPLIANCES**	3,045.6	2,347.8*	+29.7%	27,139.0	22,676.1*	+19.7%
ROOM AIR CONDITIONERS	32.0	33.5*	- 4.5	1,850.9	2,605.3*	-29.0
DEHUMIDIFIERS	- 0.2	4.9*	--	425.4	434.2*	- 2.0
DISHWASHERS - TOTAL	310.7	218.0*	+42.5	2,546.3	1,785.4*	+42.6
Built-In	286.3	194.2	+47.4	2,336.7	1,612.9	+44.9
Portable	24.4	23.8*	+ 2.5	209.5	172.4*	+21.5
DISPOSERS	360.4	331.2*	+ 8.8	2,977.9	2,283.9*	+30.4
COMPACTORS	14.5	14.6*	- 0.7	127.1	121.9*	+ 4.3
REFRIGERATION - TOTAL	579.1	481.1	+20.4	5,722.6	4,978.9	+14.9
Refrigerators	494.3	401.2	+23.2	4,584.5	3,791.2	+20.9
Freezers - Total	84.8	79.9	+ 6.1	1,138.1	1,187.7	- 4.2
Upright	46.2	39.7	+16.4	531.3	542.1	- 2.0
Chest	38.6	40.2	- 4.0	606.8	645.6	- 6.0
ELECTRIC RANGES - TOTAL	265.2	202.2*	+31.2	2,286.9	1,665.6*	+37.3
Free Standing	211.7	161.8*	+30.8	1,821.8	1,322.9*	+37.7
Built-In	53.5	40.4*	+32.4	465.1	342.7*	+35.7
MICROWAVE OVENS/RANGES***	770.7	470.6	+63.8	4,694.6	3,212.6	+46.1
HOME LAUNDRY - TOTAL	734.8	607.8	+20.9	6,677.6	5,731.9	+16.5
Washers - Total	411.8	346.8	+18.7	3,946.2	3,448.4	+14.4
Automatic	406.1	341.1	+19.1	3,886.4	3,394.0	+14.5
Wringer & Other	5.7	5.7	--	59.8	54.3	+10.1
Dryers - Total	323.0	261.0	+23.8	2,731.4	2,283.5	+19.6
Electric	254.8	206.6	+23.3	2,176.2	1,796.1	+21.2
Gas	68.2	54.3	+25.6	555.2	487.4	+13.9

* Revised
** Numbers do not add because of overlapping product categories
*** Includes U.S. produced and imported microwave ovens and combination microwave oven/ranges

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